



Backdrop: European Union

- 22.5% of world market (WA is 0.5%)
- SCHER opinion
- EU members will continue to meet quarterly to review new data and studies
- Commission may withdraw exemption at any time based on findings of detrimental effects



Backdrop: CPSC

- Consumer Product Safety Commission:
 - Two proposed rules establishing flammability standards for mattresses and upholstered furniture
 - Deca-BDE recommended
 - Would increase amount of Deca-BDE being used
 - Opportunity to intervene preemptively
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Backdrop: Additional information

- Increasing concern: over 90 new studies on PBDEs in 2005 alone
 - Viability of alternatives: 51% of electronic housings already deca-free
 - Technology/design is available and cost-effective, companies are still competitive
 - Includes major companies such as Sony, Toshiba, Panasonic, Dell, HP
 - Current consumer protection: limitations to TSCA's effectiveness
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Backdrop: Additional information

- PBDE Volume estimates: Total market demand by region in 2001 in metric tons (and by percent). With the discontinuation of Penta and Octa-BDE, Deca-BDE now accounts for 100 percent of PBDE production.

PBDE Mixture	Americas	Europe	Asia	Other	Totals
Deca-BDE	24,500 (44%)	7,600 (14%)	23,000 (41%)	1,050 (2%)	56,100 (100%)
Octa-BDE	1,500 (40%)	610 (16%)	1,500 (40%)	180 (5%)	3,790 (100%)
Penta-BDE	7,100 (95%)	150 (2%)	150 (2%)	100 (1%)	7,500 (100%)
Total	33,100 (49%)	8,360 (12%)	24,650 (37%)	1,330 (2%)	67,390 (100%)



Backdrop:

PBDE Legislation around the U.S.

Banning Penta and Octa-BDE	Legislation Pending
California	Connecticut
Hawaii	Illinois
Maine	Massachusetts
Maryland	Minnesota
Michigan	Montana
New York	Oregon